



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**  
Philadelphia District

## **PROJECT FACTSHEET**

### **Southeastern Pa. Environmental Improvements Program Phila., Bucks, Chester, Del. & Montgomery Counties, PA**

April 2009

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS:** Reps. Brady (PA-1), Fattah (PA-2), Gerlach (PA-6), Sestak (PA-7), Schwartz (PA-13), Dent (PA-15), Pitts (PA-16)

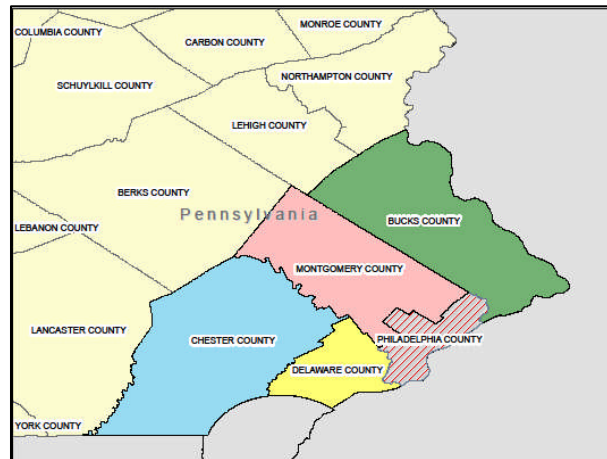
**APPROPRIATION / PHASE:**  
Construction, General

**BUSINESS PROGRAM:**  
Environmental Infrastructure

**AUTHORITY:** Section 566 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1996

**LOCATION:** Authority allows for projects within the Southeastern Region of Pennsylvania including the Counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, and Delaware. See individual projects for specific location.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Southeastern Pennsylvania Environmental Improvement Program, authorized by Section 566 of WRDA 96, provides design and construction assistance to non-Federal interests for carrying out water related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in southern Pennsylvania, including projects for waste water treatment and related facilities, water supply and related facilities, and surface water resource protection and development. The process consists of three phases: (1) Project Approval - preparation and approval of an Initial Appraisal Report; (2) Project Design - negotiation and execution of a Design Agreement between Federal and Non-Federal interests and the design of the project; and finally (3) Project Construction - negotiation and execution of a Project Partnership Agreement and construction of the project.



**OVERALL STATUS:** In FY05, the Corps and Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) visited Mill Creek and several sites along Cobbs Creek. These site investigations identified four (4) projects – (1) Mill Creek Diversion Project, (2) the Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project, (3) the Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project, and (4) the Indian Creek Reconstruction Project.

In FY06, funds totaling \$594,000 were allocated with \$300,000 for the three Cobbs Creek/Indian Creek projects and \$294,000 for an additional project – (5) Tacony Creek. In FY 08, \$492,000 was allocated to the Tacony Creek project. Also in FY08, \$49,000 was allocated for a project in Whitpain, PA and \$236,000 was allocated for a project in Hatfield, PA. Fiscal Year 09 contributed an additional \$837,000 divided between Tacony Creek (\$478,000), Cobbs Creek

Habitat Restoration (\$239,000) and a new study for Delaware and Chester County Streams (\$120,000).

Congress also appropriated \$2,117,000 in funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) for the Section 566 Program. The division of funds includes Mill Creek Diversion (\$517,000), Tacony Creek Ecological Improvements (\$750,000), Cobbs Creek Fish Passage (\$100,000), Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration (\$500,000), and Delaware and Chester County Streams (\$250,000).

### Mill Creek Diversion Project

- **Description:** The project evaluates alternatives to divert the stream flow generated within the Mill Creek Watershed in Montgomery County away from Philadelphia's combined sewer by constructing an alternate channel. There are at least seven different alignments under consideration considering alternate routes from Mill Creek to the Schuylkill River, East Branch Indian Creek or Cobbs Creek. The project evaluation includes engineering feasibility, cost and potential adverse flood and environmental impacts associated with increased flows in the existing channels. The project will also investigate the possibility of detaining runoff in Montgomery County.
- **Status:** Higher authority approved the Initial Appraisal Report. The Corps and PWD executed the Design Agreement on 13 June 2007. Work on the Alternative Evaluation Report is underway. PWD provided local GIS data to assist with the project and is completing the existing conditions hydrologic and hydraulic models. The Corps used FY06 carryover funds to award geotechnical and HTRW investigations contracts in FY08.

Currently, the Corps is conducting a geotechnical analysis evaluating the physical characteristics of the subsurface material, including bedrock, within the potential channel/tunnel alignments. This analysis is part of a contract with the URS Corporation. The Corps is also conducting a Hazardous, Toxic and Radiological Waste (HTRW) Analysis that will preliminarily determine the potential for hazardous, toxic and radiological substances that may impact this project. A portion of this analysis is also under contract with URS Corporation.

FY10 funds would be used to continue the Alternative Evaluation Report.

#### FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)

	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0
Design Agreement	8	0	0
Alt. Evaluation Report	1,125	375	1,500
Plans & Specifications *	2,250	750	3,000
Construction	15,000	5,000	20,000

#### BUDGET

#### DATA (\$000) Comments

Thru FY 06	** 522	
FY 07	0	
FY 08	0	
FY 09	0	
ARRA	517	

\* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

\*\* Funds transferred from the Cobbs Creek Habitat (\$117K), Cobbs Creek Fish Passage (\$72K), Indian Creek (\$57K), and Tacony Creek (\$276K) projects

**SPONSOR:** Philadelphia Water Department

**COMMENTS:** The project must comply with all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to construction.

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### **Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project**

- **Description:** Urbanization of the Cobbs Creek watershed resulted in degradation of the stream corridor and adjacent habitat. More specifically, urban stormwater runoff and combined sewer overflows have eroded the banks and altered the stream alignment. The purpose of the Cobbs Creek Habitat Restoration Project is to design and construct an approximately 1.2 mile channel restoration project from the Millbourne Dam downstream to Marshall Road, to meet a small (about 1000ft) restoration project completed by PWD in 2005.
- **Status:** Higher Authority approved the Initial Appraisal Report. The next step is to develop a statement of work, and negotiate and execute the Design Agreement. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report. The USACE transferred \$117,000 in FY06 funds from this project to support the Mill Creek Diversion Project.

Other PWD initiatives within the watershed have delayed the development of a statement of work and initiation of design agreement negotiations. The Corps and PWD want to ensure that this project compliments all other activities within the Cobbs Creek Watershed and provides a more comprehensive watershed solution. The Corps will use FY09 funds to negotiate and execute a Design Agreement with the PWD to initiate design of the project.

<b>FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)</b>				<b>BUDGET DATA (\$000)</b>		
	Fed	Non-Fed	Total			Comments
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0	Thru FY 05	0	
Design Agreement	8	0	0	FY 06	** 10	
Plans & Specifications *	450	150	600	FY 07	0	
Construction	3,337	1,113	4,450	FY 08	0	
				FY 09	239	
				ARRA	500	

\* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

\*\* \$117K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

**SPONSOR:** Philadelphia Water Department

**COMMENTS:** The project must comply with all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to construction.

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## Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project

- **Description:** Modification of a small dam on Cobbs Creek would restore fish passage and improve the aquatic habit along this stream. The Woodland Dam, located close to the Cobbs Creek Parkway and Woodland Avenue, is a low concrete structure owned by the City of Philadelphia's Fairmont Park Commission. Below the dam, Cobbs Creek is subject to tidal influence. The purpose of the Cobbs Creek Fish Passage Restoration Project is to investigate, select, and construct the best alternative to reestablish fish passage on Cobbs Creek. Typically, the most effective method of restoring fish passage is to eliminate the obstructions by removing the dam. However, if it is concluded that the dam is of significant cultural value and cannot be removed, breached, or notched, other methods, such as stone fills downstream of the dams or fish ladders, will need to be investigated.
- **Status:** High Authority approved the Initial Appraisal Report. The next step is to develop a statement of work, and negotiate and execute the Design Agreement. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$8,000 has been spent on the draft Design Agreement. The Corps transferred the remaining FY 06 funds (\$72,000) identified for Cobbs Creek Fish Passage to the Mill Creek Diversion project. The Corps is in the process of negotiating a statement of work and Design Agreement for this project with the Philadelphia Water Department PWD. FY10 funds would be used to continue with the project design and initiate construction.

### FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)

	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Init. Appraisal Report	10	0	0
Design Agreement	8	0	0
Environmental Assessment	75	25	100
Plans & Specifications *	450	150	600
Construction	1,687	563	2,250

### BUDGET

DATA (\$000)	Comments
Thru FY 05	0
FY 06	** 28
FY 07	0
FY 08	0
FY 09	0
ARRA	100

\* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

\*\* \$72K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

**SPONSOR:** Philadelphia Water Department

**COMMENTS:** The project must comply with all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to construction.

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## Tacony Creek Ecological Improvements Project

- **Description:** The original proposed study considered three potential ecological improvement projects in the Tacony/Frankford Creek watershed located in the northeastern section of the City of Philadelphia. The first project, located in the Logan Neighborhood adjacent to

Montgomery County, involved the design of a 60 million gallon storage facility to reduce the volume of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) into Tacony Creek. The second project, located downstream of the Logan Neighborhood in the vicinity of where Tacony Creek becomes Frankford Creek, involved the partial dechannelization and restoration of the lower Frankford Creek. The third and final project included the design of a 13.5 million gallon storage conduit located at the confluence of Frankford Creek and the Delaware River reducing the CSO into Old Frankford Creek. The current project only includes the third component of the original project.

- **Status:** Higher Authority approved the Initial Appraisal Report. Preparation of the Draft Design Agreement began in April 2007 and continues to undergo revisions based the requirements of the sponsor. To date, \$10,000 has been spent on the Initial Appraisal Report, and \$32,000 has been spent on the draft Design Agreement. The Corps transferred a portion FY 06 funds identified for Tacony Creek (\$276,000) to the Mill Creek Diversion project. The Corps is using FY08 carryover funds to negotiate and execute the Design Agreement with the non-Federal sponsor and initiate project design. FY09 funds will be used to continue with project design.

#### **FINANCIAL DATA (\$000)**

	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Initial Appraisal Report	10	0	0
Design Agreement	8		
Alt Evaluation Rpt	750	250	1,000
Plans & Specifications *	TBD	TBD	TBD
Construction	TBD	TBD	TBD

#### **BUDGET**

<b>DATA (\$000)</b>		Comments
Thru FY 05	0	
FY 06	** 18	
FY 07	0	
FY 08	492	
FY 09	478	
ARRA	880	

\* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

\*\* \$276K transferred to Mill Creek Diversion project

**SPONSOR:** Philadelphia Water Department

**COMMENTS:** The project must comply with all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to construction.

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#### **Delaware and Chester County Streams**

- **Description:** Many Delaware and Chester County streams are in need of assistance to restore their environmental conditions including habit and water quality. In addition, insufficiently managed surface runoff caused by urban sprawl have caused significant degradation of streams corridors in this region. A project in this area would evaluate problems for select areas and develop alternatives for environmental improvement and ultimately lead to construction of environmental improvement projects. Two potential projects include stream restoration along Albert's Run in Springfield Township and restoration of channelized and

eroded stream channels contributing to flooding in Haverford Township. Both projects are in Delaware County.

- **Status:** The Corps will utilize FY09 funds to work with the potential sponsors in identifying project sites and the development of Initial Appraisal Reports for higher authority approval.

**FINANCIAL**

**DATA (\$000)**

	Fed	Non-Fed	Total
Init. Appraisal Fact sheet	TBD	TBD	TBD
Design Agreement	TBD	TBD	TBD
Plans & Specifications *	TBD	TBD	TBD
Construction	TBD	TBD	TBD

**BUDGET**

**DATA (\$000)**

	Comments
Thru FY 08	0
FY 09	120
ARRA	250

\* P&S initially fully federally funded, then reimbursed by sponsor at construction

**SPONSOR:** TBD

**COMMENTS:** The project must comply with all requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) prior to construction.

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**STUDY MANAGER:**

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